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Herrn Professor Waßermann

Institut für Infections Krankheiten

Föhrerstraße

Berlin N. 39

(Germany)


Bestellt
vom
Postamt 9
18/1 04
DS

daß Sie in Bezug auf das Typhus-Immunisirungs-
Verfahren Erfolge erzielt haben.

Mit der Immunitätsfrage habe ich mich hier
sehr eingehend beschäftigen müssen, wobei sich
herausgestellt hat, daß bei den durch Protozoen ver-
anlaßten Krankheiten, die in Südafrika eine so be-
deutende Rolle spielen, die Verhältnisse wieder
wesentlich anders liegen, als bei den bacte-
riellen Krankheiten. Darüber müssen wir
uns einmal gründlich unterhalten, wenn
ich wieder in Berlin bin, was voraussicht-
lich im nächsten Mai der Fall sein wird.
Eher möchte ich es nicht riskiren, mich dem
kalten und feuchten Wetter des rauhen Nor-
dens auszusetzen.

An Wassermann habe ich geschrieben.

Mit vielen Grüßen von meiner Frau und mir
an Ihre Frau Gemahlin und Sie

ganz ergebenst
R. Koch

Bulawayo, Rhodesia
den 15. Dec. 1903.

Hochgeehrter Herr Professor!

Für die freundlichen Glückwünsche zu meinem
Geburtstage sage ich Ihrer Frau Gemahlin und
Ihnen meinen herzlichsten Dank. Es war ganz
gegen meine Absicht, daß ich diesen Tag so
fern von der Heimat und von allen Freunden
und Bekannten feiern sollte. Um so erfreu-
licher war es, an der großen Zahl von brief-
lichen und telegraphischen Glückwünschen, welche
hier eintrafen, zu sehen, daß man daheim
meiner auch im fernen Rhodesia gedacht
hatte.

Ihre ausführlichen Mittheilungen in den beiden
früheren Briefen über Ihre und Ihrer Schüler
Arbeiten haben mich sehr interessirt, namentlich

KOCH, Robert; M.D. (1843-1910) Autograph letter signed, two pages on two leaves, ca. 240 words, addressed to Professor Jakob Wasserman at the "Institut für Infections Krankheiten" in Berlin, dated December 15th, 1903, at Bulaways, Rhodesia.

SPLENDID AUTOGRAPH LETTER OF PERSONAL AND SCIENTIFIC IMPORTANCE. The addressee, Professor Jakob Wassermann, discoverer of the famous syphilis test, was a close friend of Dr. Koch; he worked together with the latter at the Institute for Infectious Diseases which had been founded for Dr. Koch at Berlin in 1891.

In this letter Dr. Koch thanks his colleague in very moving terms for the congratulations which he had received on his sixtieth birthday. "It had never been my intention to celebrate this day so far away from home and all friends.. I was all the happier to receive so large a number of gongratulations by letter and wire, proof that even in distant Rhodesia I am being remembered".

He thanks Wassermann for the scientific reports which have reached him, particularly about the new successes in breeding cultures of the typhus bacillus (which Koch himself had discovered in 1880). Koch points out that he has studied the problem of immunity very closely now and finds that situation with respect to diseases caused by protozoes - which play a major role in South-Africa - is quite different from that of bacterial diseases. He would like to go into this further when he returns to Berlin, presumably in May (1904). At the end he mentions ~~Dr.~~ Anton Weichselbaum (1845-1920), discoverer of the miningococcus, causative agent of cerebrospinal meningitis.

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Bulaways, Rhodesia, December 15, 1903. $65.00

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KOCH, Robert

A. L. S. to Jacob
Wassermann, Rhodesia
Dec. 15,1903